

Syllabus changes for Spring 2021 Group and Health FSA Exams:

Design & Pricing – There were minor changes made to the DP syllabus for the Spring 2021 exam, and they are discussed below. Most of the changes were on the segment C side.

No study notes, articles, or Actuarial Standards of Practice were added.

The following items were modified:

- GHDP-128-21: Pricing Medicare Supplement Benefits Segment DP-C
 - *This study note has been updated from the previous 2019 version*
 - *The changes were minor and did not materially change any of the important discussion topics in the paper*

Finally, the following items were removed from the syllabus:

- GHDP-133-20: Health Insurer Fee Segment DP-C
- GHDP-108-17: Post-ACA Trends in Health Coverage for Small Businesses: Views from the Market Segment DP-C
- GHDP-134-20: Top 10 Technology Trends in Health Insurance Segment DP-C
- GHDP-124-19 – Medicare Shared Savings Program in the Quality Payment Program Segment DP-A

Finance & Valuation – There were no changes to the FV syllabus from last season.

Specialty – There were several changes made to the Specialty syllabus for the Spring 2021 exam, and they are discussed below.

Three articles and one study note were added:

- GHS-129-21: Effects of a Population Health Community-Based Palliative Care Program on Cost and Utilization
 - *This paper reviews a propensity score adjusted study on Medicare Advantage patients who were at risk of overmedicalized death*
 - *The methods used in the study follow similar techniques used in Duncan's Managing and Evaluating Healthcare Intervention Programs text*
 - *Results showed cost and utilization reduction from the intervention program*

- Valuation of Care Management Vendors
 - *This paper discusses how to evaluate vendors that offer a particular care management program*
 - *The concepts are all similar to the ones already discussed in the Duncan text*
 - *The concepts are streamlined at a very high level without any concrete examples to show how the ideas were implemented*
 - *Exam questions coming from this paper will probably be list/describe, and any calculations would be an “assess the ROI of a vendor’s program” kind of question*
- Risk Considerations for Innovative Products – A Case Study of the Long-Term Care Industry
 - *This paper looks at LTC insurance as a lens for insight to teach other health and welfare actuaries to deal with the adversities that arise with new insurance products*
 - *Some of this article is the story of LTC insurance and then the rest falls more in line with its learning objective: evaluate health insurance organization risk and mitigation strategies*
 - *They talk about risks that arose from the industry and how those risks have been managed*
 - *A lot of similar concepts were discussed in a study note that was just removed from the syllabus, GHS-127-19, and thus this paper simply adds to the syllabus more general context to the LTC market and how ERM plays a role*
- Creating Stability in Unstable Times – A Look at Risk Adjustment and Market Stabilization
 - *This paper discusses the instability of the individual (medical) health insurance market and how aspects of the ACA are helping to stabilize the market*
 - *HHS-HCC risk adjustment is a major theme throughout the paper*
 - *A study of the individual market in Nevada is used to illustrate how some ACA provisions are impacting profits, and general trends that are emerging*

Finally, the following items were removed from the syllabus:

- GHS-127-19 – The Risks of Pricing New Insurance Products - The Case of Long-Term Care